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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A.R. Heitman et al. Examiner: Hong Chong Kim  
Serial No.: 09/972,391 Group Art Unit: 2186  
Filed: October 5, 2001 Docket No.: SJO920010096US1  
TITLE: STORAGE AREA NETWORK METHODS AND APPARATUS WITH  
VIRTUAL SAN RECOGNITION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 27, 2004.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to a non-final office action dated May 26, 2004 ("Office Action"), in which the Examiner rejected pending claims 1-23 as anticipated (35 U.S.C. §102) by prior art. Applicants amended certain claims and added new claims. Applicants traverse the prior art rejections and submit that all pending claims 1-26 are patentable over the cited art and in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed hereon.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6.

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